

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):	Donald Schomer et al.	§	Group Art Unit:
		§	
Serial No.:	Not Yet Assigned	§	
		§	Confirmation No.:
Filed:	Concurrently Herewith	§	
		§	Atty. Docket No.: 2329-00155
For:	Spinal Ligament Modification Devices	§	

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
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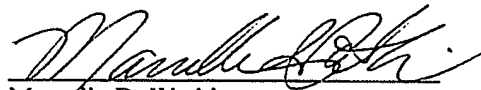
Date: April 26, 2006

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement, including completed Form PTO-1449, comprises a list of pertinent art of which Applicants are aware.

The submission of this Information Disclosure Statement and the references submitted therewith is not an admission that the art cited is "prior" with respect to the present invention, nor is it a representation, that no better art exists. Applicants hereby reserve the right to swear behind or otherwise disprove any alleged "prior" nature of any art cited should the facts support and the situation warrant such an action. It is submitted that the art cited does not constitute a bar to the patentability of Applicants' invention under 35 U.S.C. § 102 or § 103.

Respectfully submitted,



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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number	
				Filing Date	
				First Named Inventor	Donald Schomer
				Group Art Unit	
				Examiner Name	
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	2329-00155
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines. Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	AA	US-3,732,858	05-15-1973	Banko	
	AB	US-3,945,372	03-23-1976	Milan et al.	
	AC	US-4,103,690	08-01-1978	Harris	
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	BJ	US-6,443,910	09-03-2002	Krueger et al.	
Examiner Signature				Date Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST 3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard St 16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached. The collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete including gathering, preparing and submitting the completed application form to the

Substitute for form 1449/PTO				Complete if Known	
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				Examiner Name	
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	2329-00155

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
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	BK	US-6,454,767	09-24-2002	Alleyne	
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	BO	US-6,488,636	12-03-2002	Bryan et al.	
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	CD	US-4,994,072	02-19-1991	Bhate	
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		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	CF	WO 00/45868	08-10-2000	The Regents of the University of CA		
	CG	WO 01/08571	02-08-2001	Disc-O-Tech Medical Technologies LTD		
	CH	WO 2002/076311	10-03-2002	Roehm		
	CI	WO 97/34536	09-25-1997	Roehm		

OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate) title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc), date, page(s), volume-issued number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ²
	CJ	PCT International Search Report for International Application No PCT/US05/27216 dated November 29, 2005 (2 p)	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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